



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, CA 90012 – (213) 974-1465

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montano

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Mr. James Cragin
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore
Mr. Michael A. Russell

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **MEETING OF OCTOBER 13, 2004**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Montano at 10:03 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montano led the pledge of allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE - ROLL CALL

Present:

Chair Eleanor R. Montano
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Michael Russell
Vito Cannella
John Hammargren
Carl Moore
Frank Bacio

Absent

James Cragin

Others Present

Lee Millen, Commission Services
Sherry Scates, Commission Staff
Twila Kerr, Commission Services

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 6, 2004

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Cannella and unanimously carried, the October 6, 2004 meeting minutes were approved with the following corrections:

Page 2, last sentence should read: *A copy of the DCFS Group Homes list* was mailed to Lt. Arthur-Parra, per her request.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montano reported on the following:

- The importance of flu shots for Commissioners due to their high exposure to institutionalized individuals;
- The necessity of Commission staff to periodically accompany Commissioners on inspection tours to further their understanding of the Commission's work;
- The October 10th Daily Breeze report indicating that following the escape of four juveniles from a locked-down home for troubled adolescents last month, Star View Adolescent Center will not accept juveniles on probation for several months while officials review the screening process used in the placement of youth at this facility (copy on file).

Chair Montano requested Lee Millen, Commission Services, to determine if the County's funding of group homes, which was cut due to the budget crisis, has been restored.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported that the Commission's Charitable Fund balance remains at \$745.40.

STAFF REPORT

In response to Chair Montano, Lee Millen, Commission Services, advised that he requested that the Executive Office Procurement Department provide a cost estimate for new customized nameplates.

Sherry Scates, Commission Staff, reported that the recent inspection form updates requested by Commissioners had been completed.

CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

At the suggestion of Commissioner Moore, future group home audit reports received from the Auditor-Controller's office will be assigned to Commissioners on a rotating basis for their review and comment.

DISCUSSION OF COMMISSION GOALS

None

FACILITY/GROUP INSPECTION REPORTS

West Covina Group Home – 111 #2

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren visited this facility on October 12th and gave a rating of satisfactory. Areas of concern: Lint trap in kitchen needs cleaning; and more eating utensils are needed.

Heritage Group Home IV – 53 #2

Chair Montano and Commissioner Hammargren visited this facility on October 12th and having found no one at home, were unable to conduct an inspection.

Jay Cee Dee Children's Home – 59 #2

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on October 7th and gave a rating of **satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Commissioners noted: the kitchen area had been remodeled in July; the driveway had recently been repaved; and several pieces of furniture had been replaced as needed.

Jay Cee Dee Children's Home – 59 #3

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on October 7th and gave a rating of **satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Commissioners noted an improvement in the involvement and participation by social workers at this facility.

Hillside Homes for Children – 55 #1

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on October 12th and gave a rating of **satisfactory** with no areas of concern observed or reported. Commissioners noted that this is a state-of-the-art facility and that an independent living program has been incorporated. Future plans include the development of low-cost apartments for emancipated youth.

Hillside Homes for Children – 54 #3

Vice Chair Stathatos and Commissioner Cannella visited this facility on October 12th and gave a rating of **excellent** with no areas of concern observed or reported.

United Care, Inc. – 109 #1

Commissioners Bacio and Russell visited this facility on October 7th and gave a rating of **needs improvement**. Areas of concern: kitchen stove needs

cleaning; chipped dishes need to be replaced; hot water tap in bathroom not working; and hot water heater not strapped down.

Frances Foundation – 45 #3

Commissioner Bacio visited this facility on October 12th, and having found no one at home, was unable to conduct an inspection.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

No new business or announcements were presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Commissioners welcomed new staff support members Lee Millen, Team Leader, and Twila Kerr, Staff.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (To Be Presented and Placed On a Future Meeting Agenda)

- Further Discussion of Commission Goals

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montano adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry Scates
Commission Staff